

EXISTING LAND USE

MUSSELSHELL COUNTY MONTANA

PREPARED FOR THE COOPERATIVE MAPPING PROGRAM DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS, COORDINATOR

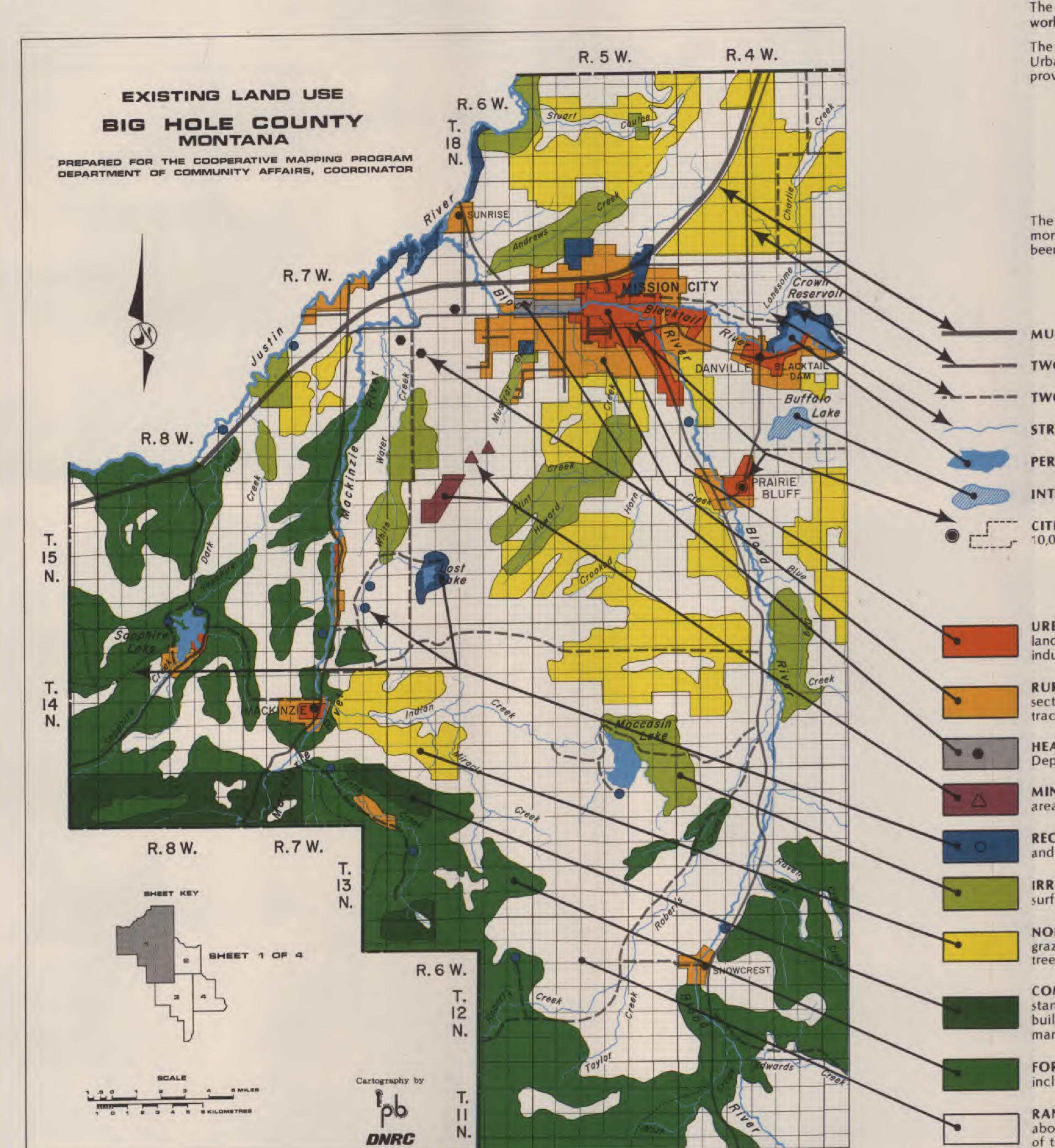
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SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE



MONTANA STATEWIDE COOPERATIVE LAND USE MAPPING PROGRAM



PROGRAM SUMMARY

This map series is a product of the Statewide Cooperative Land Use Mapping Program, coordinated by the Department of Community Affairs. The project was made possible through the cooperative efforts of several state and federal agencies and corporations which supplied land use information and mapping services. These agencies are:

State Departments

Community Affairs
Fish and Game
Health and Environmental Sciences

Highways Natural Resources and Conservation State Lands

Bureau of Indian Affairs Bureau of Land Management Forest Service Soil Conservation Service

Federal Agencies

Burlington-Northern Champion Timberlands St. Regis Paper Company

The Information and Publication Bureau of the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation was responsible for the final cartographic work, and the Soil Conservation Service provided the printing services for the maps.

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LEGEND

The map at left is a generalized representation of the maps in this series; all features and names are fictitious. It has been reduced to provide a more manageable example. Actual maps in the series and the symbols used are 2½ times larger than the example. The land use categories have been exaggerated for ease of identification.

PHYSICAL FEATURES

MULTILANE DIVIDED HIGHWAYS

TWO-LANE PAVED HIGHWAYS

TWO-LANE GRAVEL ROADS

STREAMS AND RIVERS. Perennial or "live" channels which contain water at all times.

PERENNIAL LAKES AND RESERVOIRS. Containing water at all times.

INTERMITTENT LAKES OR RESERVOIRS. Containing water periodically throughout the year.

CITIES, TOWNS, COUNTY SEATS. City limit outlines shown where population is greater than 10,000. Town symbols shown where less than 10,000. County seats are designated by a circle around the symbol.

LAND USE - 1977

URBAN AND BUILT-UP AREAS. Lands developed for commercial, light industrial, high density residential, and associated uses. Included are all lands within the municipal boundaries of incorporated cities and towns and those lands in unincorporated areas devoted to commercial and light industrial uses or where residential structures or parcels occur at an intensity of at least one per two acres.

RURAL AND SUBURBAN TRACTS. Areas of land divided into parcels of more than two acres but not larger than quarter-quarter aliquot parts of sections (approximately 40 acres). "Divided into parcels" means those parcels created by certificates of survey, subdivision plats, deeds, contracts for deed, or other instruments of conveyance.

HEAVY INDUSTRY AND UTILITY AREAS. Major feed lots and wood, chemical and mineral processing plants requiring a permit from the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences. Uses occupying less than 40 acres are represented by point symbols.

MINERAL EXTRACTION AREAS. Any operating strip or open cut mining and subsurface mining areas, gravel pits and quarries, tailing and waste areas which require a state operating permit. Point symbols are used for areas under 40 acres where individual mines or gravel pits are shown.

RECREATION USE AREAS. Areas on public and private lands used primarily for recreation. Ski areas, parks, campgrounds, regularly used trails, and general recreation areas with or without support facilities are included. Recreation areas smaller than 40 acres are shown as point symbols.

IRRIGATED CROPLAND, HAYLAND AND PASTURELAND. Land used for the production of vegetables, row crops, grain, and hay using subsurface, flood or sprinkler irrigation.

NON-IRRIGATED CROPLAND. All cultivated agricultural land not using irrigation. Land usually used for cultivation, but occasionally used for grazing is classified as non-irrigated cropland. Land which is planted and mowed for hay at regular intervals as well as orchards and Christmas tree plantations are included.

COMMERCIAL FOREST. Areas managed for timber harvest. Clear-cut areas and those in various stages of managed growth are included. Tree stands actively being harvested and those that may be harvested are mapped. The timber management activities in these areas include road-building, thinning, slash disposal, tree planting, timber cutting, and cull tree removal. Commercial forest areas on public land and private lands managed by major commercial forest products industries are shown.

FOREST COVER AREAS. Coniferous and deciduous tree areas displaying a natural tree canopy or crown cover of 15% or more. This category includes forested areas unsuitable for commercial harvest or those that fall within management areas that preclude harvest.

RANGELAND. Native and introduced grassland or shrubland of less than 15% tree cover and eroded areas, steep rocky slopes, barren areas above timberline, and rock outcrops. This includes areas supporting both livestock and foraging wildlife and areas of little value to man because of their unproductive surface conditions.

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